



Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President
Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20502

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 17, 2003

Contact: Kathryn Harrington
(202) 456-6124
kharring@ostp.eop.gov

Federal Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Provides
the Foundations for American Innovation
Supplement to President's FY 2004 Budget Released Today

WASHINGTON, D.C. – A special supplement to President Bush's FY 2004 budget released today by the White House underscores the critical role that networking and information technologies developed through federal research investments plays in creating foundations for national security, scientific leadership, research, learning, and 21st century society.

The report, entitled *Advanced Foundations for American Innovation*, describes the Administration's FY 2004 investments in the federal Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) Program. Highlighted are the unique contributions made by networking and information technology developed with federal funding, including hybrid, distributed battlefield communications systems; sensor technologies for hazard-detection devices and networks; computer modeling, simulation, and visualization techniques for cutting-edge research, industrial and pharmaceutical design, and medical instrumentation (such as magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI); high-speed networks for large-scale, data-intensive scientific collaboration; digital archives of core knowledge for research and learning; and capabilities for innovation in every sector of American life. The document also summarizes the FY 2003 accomplishments and FY 2004 research plans of the multi-agency NITRD Program, which includes a broad range of interdisciplinary technical activities.

"Few other federal research and development initiatives have had as much impact as NITRD," said Dr. John H. Marburger, Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), "and the impact has been in both private and public sector applications and products, across a wide spectrum. Federal investments made through the NITRD Program continue to yield breakthroughs that support agency missions, enable scientific discoveries in other fields, and lead to technological advances and innovations that help drive our economy."

The proposed NITRD budget of \$2.15 billion for FY 2004, an increase of over \$170 million from FY 2003 levels, is part of the Administration's record \$123 billion request for federal research and development spending. The President's request, the highest federal research and development investment level in history, reflects the Administration's strong commitment to maintaining U.S. preeminence in science and technology and its focus on networking and information technology as a high priority in the federal research and development portfolio.

Required under the High-Performance Computing Act of 1991 (P.L. 102-194), the report is produced by the Interagency Working Group on Information Technology Research and Development of the National

Science and Technology Council, and it is available online at <http://www.nitrd.gov>. For a printed copy of the report, contact the National Coordination Office for Information Technology Research and Development at (703) 292-4873 or nco@nitrd.gov.

The NITRD program is the coordinated research enterprise of federal agencies engaged in fundamental research and development in all aspects of large-scale and broadband networking, advanced computing, software, and information management technologies to meet vital federal needs and sustain U.S. global leadership in science and engineering. Participating agencies include:

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
- Defense Information Systems Agency
- Department of Defense, Office of the Director, Defense Research & Engineering
- Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration
- Department of Energy, Office of Science
- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- National Institutes of Health
- National Institute of Standards and Technology
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Security Agency
- National Science Foundation

Congress established OSTP in 1976 with a broad mandate to advise the President and others within the Executive Office of the President on the impacts of science and technology on domestic and international affairs. The 1976 Act also authorizes OSTP to lead an interagency effort to develop and to implement sound science and technology policies and budgets and to work with the private sector, state and local governments, the science and higher education communities, and other nations toward this end. The Director of OSTP serves as co-chair of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and oversees the National Science and Technology Council on behalf of the President.

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) was established by Executive Order on November 23, 1993. This Cabinet-level council is the principle means for the President to integrate science and technology policies across the federal government. The NSTC acts as a virtual agency for science and technology to coordinate the diverse parts of the Federal research and development enterprise.

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